



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

News Release

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ART SHOW HIGHLIGHTS WORK OF PEOPLE WITH MENTAL ILLNESS

HONOLULU — The Hawaii State Department of Health Adult Mental Health Division and VSA Arts of the Hawaii-Pacific present the third annual “Abilities” art show at the Gallery at the Pali. The exhibit, showing from May 1-27, 2005, seeks to highlight the artistic contribution of those with mental illness and reduce stigma and discrimination.

Event organizer for the “Abilities” art show, Lauren Prepose, encourages everyone to view the exhibit. “With the wonderful work submitted this year and with the range of artists, this year’s ‘Abilities’ art show will open some eyes and hopefully change people’s perceptions of mental illness,” she said.

This year, 31 local artists submitted over 130 works of art including paintings, drawings, collages, photographs, and mixed media. The show will showcase 30 pieces by 18 artists from Oahu and five artists from the Big Island.

Abilities jurors are local artists Duane Preble (painter, photographer, coauthor of *Artforms*), Atsumi Yamamoto (painter), and Philippe Gross (photographer, research psychologist, and coauthor of the *Tao of Photography: Seeing Beyond Seeing*).

VSA Arts will sponsor a reception with food and entertainment on May 13th from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. for the community to meet and celebrate the artists; an awards ceremony will start at 6:15 p.m.

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The Gallery at the Pali is located at the First Unitarian Church at 2500 Pali Highway in Honolulu. The Gallery hours are Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m., Saturday and Sunday from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

For more information, contact the Mental Health Services Research and Evaluation Center at (808) 539-3939 or email liagena@amhd.health.state.hi.us.

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